GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2340
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008
GLOBAL HUNGER INDEX RANKING
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the ranking accorded to India in The Global Hunger Index report by International Food Policy Research Institute(IFPRI);

(b) the situation of hunger in different States as per the said report,State-wise;

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard;

(d) whether according to the said report the Government has failed to keep pace with the targets fixed for reducing of hunger in the country between 1990-2015;

(e) if so,the details thereof and the reasons therefor indicating the targets fixed and achieved; and

(f) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS,FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): As per IFPRI Report,2008,India has been ranked 66th out of 88 countries.

(b): The underlying components of India State Hunger Index and India State Hunger Index scores are annexed at Annex-I.

(c), (d), (e) & (f): The said IFPRI Report, 2008 in fact dates to the year 2006 and is based on 3 factors spread over 3 different time-lines;viz Factor(1) proportion of undernourished population, 2002-04;Factor(2) prevalence of under-weight in children under-5,2001-06;and Factor(3) under-five mortality rate, 2006.These three factors have not been uniformly applied limiting the conclusions for Global Hunger Index (GHI) in IFPRI Report 2008 for the year 2006.In IFPRI Report 2007,the GHI score for India in 2003 was 25.73 as against 41.23 in 1981.The current IFPRI 2008 Report indicates an improved GHI score at 23.7, taking India's rank from 96 reported by IFPRI in 2007 to 66 in 2008.

As remedial measures to improve food security and nutritional status of people so that required food becomes available at affordable prices,Government implements various programmes/schemes. Allocations of foodgrains at subsidized prices are made by Government from Central Pool for the Below Poverty Line (BPL), Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and APL categories under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). Government also implements several welfare schemes for different sections of society like: Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Annapoorna Scheme, Wheat Based Nutrition Programme,Mid-Day-Meal Scheme,Village Grains Banks Scheme, Emergency Feeding Programme, Scheme for supply of foodgrains for hostels and welfare institutions,Nutritional Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG). These programmes and schemes are being implemented by various Ministries and Departments of Government of India in partnership with State and UT Governments.In addition,as long term plan the Government has taken the following steps to increase production and supply of foodgrains in the country:-

(i) Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana has been launched with an estimated outlay of Rs.25000 crores during 11th Plan period for holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors including foodgrains so as to achieve 4% growth in agricultural sector during 11th Plan period.

(ii) A Centrally sponsored scheme named National Food Security Mission has been launched in selected districts so as to increase the production of rice,wheat and pulses in the country by 10, 8 and 2 million tons respectively by the end of 11th Plan.An outlay of about Rs.5000 crores has been approved for this scheme during 11th Plan.

(iii) Under Macro Management Programme in districts other than those covered under the National Food Security Mission,Integrated Cereals Development Programme in wheat based cropping systems is in operation.